

Michigan State Police Damage Assessment and Emergency Status Report #13

June 6, 1998

SITUATION OVERVIEW: Severe storms that passed through Western and Central Michigan in the early morning hours of May 31, 1998. These storms produced strong winds that have damaged homes and businesses, and downed trees and power lines. As of today, most electrical customers were supposed to have their power restored. In terms of damage, the areas hardest hit include Ottawa and Muskegon Counties, and the City of Walker in Kent County, although damage is significant in numerous other areas across South-central Michigan. To date, 29 jurisdictions have reported damage from the storms.

JURISDICTIONS AFFECTED:

MUSKEGON COUNTY Damage and Injury Assessment Report (EMD-2) indicates \$2,458,958 in public damage costs, 42 homes destroyed, 1,805 homes damaged, 5 businesses destroyed, and 73 businesses damaged. Total public and private damage costs have been estimated at \$24,205,908. Two (2) injuries have been reported. Actions: Muskegon County has declared a local state of emergency, and was granted a Governor's disaster declaration to activate state assistance for the county. The County has requested assistance from the Michigan National Guard for debris removal.

OTTAWA COUNTY Damage and Injury Assessment Report (EMD-2) indicates \$4,081,344 in public damage costs, 15 homes destroyed, 782 homes damaged, 7 businesses destroyed, and 129 businesses damaged. Twenty (20) injuries have occurred. Damages and losses have been concentrated in the City of Grand Haven, the Village of Spring Lake, and the townships of Grand Haven (northern portion), Spring Lake, Crockery, Polkton, Wright, Park, Holland Charter, Zeeland, and Jamestown. The Cities of Holland and Zeeland also sustained damages. One (1) worker was killed while attempting to repair storm-damaged electrical lines. The Bascule Bridge that carries US31 over the Grand River in Grand Haven is operating on auxiliary power. It sustained damage to the bridge house, traffic gates and signals. Temporary repairs have been made. Actions: Ottawa County has declared a local state of emergency, and was granted a Governor's disaster declaration to activate state assistance for the county.

IONIA COUNTY Damage and Injury Assessment Report (EMD-2) indicates \$150,000 in public damage costs (final costs are estimated to be \$300,000), 2,000 homes damaged, 10 homes destroyed, and 10 businesses damaged. Two (2) injuries have been reported. Actions: Ionia County has declared a local state of emergency, and was granted a Governor's disaster declaration to activate state assistance to the county. The County has requested assistance with debris removal and cleanup.

ISABELLA COUNTY Flash Reports submitted earlier this week indicated wind damage to homes, businesses, barns and other outbuildings, and some public

buildings. Local roads and streets were blocked in many areas, but are now open. Specific damage figures were not submitted. Actions: Isabella County declared a local state of emergency.

KENT COUNTY Most damage concentrated in Rockford and Walker areas. (Also see separate Grand Rapids report.) Damage and Injury Assessment Report (EMD-2) indicates \$4,158,041 in public damage costs, 50 injuries, 43 homes destroyed, 725 homes damaged, 8 businesses destroyed, and 142 businesses damaged. Eight thousand four hundred (8,400) people are unemployed as a result of the storm damage. Several streets still closed due to fallen trees and power lines. Major highways are open. Actions: Kent County has declared a local state of emergency (which includes Rockford and Walker), and was granted a Governor's disaster declaration to activate state assistance for the county. The County has requested generators and assistance with debris removal.

CITY OF ROCKFORD See Kent County report.

CITY OF WALKER See Kent County report.

CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS Damage and Injury Assessment Report (EMD-2) indicates \$373,000 in public damage costs, 25 homes damaged, and 5 businesses damaged. Actions: The City of Grand Rapids has declared a local state of emergency.

MECOSTA COUNTY Flash Report indicates downed trees and power lines throughout much of the county. Twenty-five (25) homes have been reported as damaged, along with two (2) businesses. Approximately 2,700 residents in Big Rapids were still without power this morning. Actions: Mecosta County has declared a local state of emergency, and was granted a Governor's disaster declaration to activate state assistance for the county.

NEWAYGO COUNTY Damage and Injury Assessment Report (EMD-2) indicates \$1,237,000 in public damage costs, 48 homes destroyed, 690 homes damaged, and 15 businesses damaged. Actions: Newaygo County has declared a local state of emergency, and was granted a Governor's disaster declaration to activate state assistance for the county. The County has requested assistance to help meet extraordinary expenses.

MASON COUNTY Damage and Injury Assessment Report (EMD-2) indicates \$398,000 in public damage costs, 66 homes damaged, 3 homes destroyed, and 4 businesses damaged. Five (5) injuries were also reported - 1 that required hospitalization. Twelve (12) vacation/secondary residences have incurred major damage, and nine (9) have minor damage. Actions: Mason County has declared a local state of emergency, and was granted a Governor's disaster declaration to activate state assistance for the county. The County has requested financial assistance for local response and recovery expenditures.

MONTCALM COUNTY Damage and Injury Assessment Report (EMD-2) indicates \$453,500 in public damage costs, 23 injuries, 6 persons being sheltered, 400 homes damaged, 30 homes destroyed, and 50 vacation residences either damaged or destroyed. Forty (40) businesses are reported as damaged. Actions: Montcalm County has declared a local state of emergency, and was granted a Governor's disaster declaration to activate state assistance for the county.

OSCEOLA COUNTY A Flash Report submitted earlier this week indicated the entire county has been impacted by the storms. One (1) person was reported as injured. Numerous roads were blocked by debris and downed power lines. Specific damage assessment figures were not submitted. Actions: Osceola County has declared a local state of emergency.

LAKE COUNTY Damage and Injury Assessment Report (EMD-2) indicates \$89,176 in public damage costs. Actions: Lake County has lifted its local state of emergency.

OCEANA COUNTY Earlier this week, the County reported widespread damage and loss of power. Specific damage assessment figures have not been submitted. Actions: Oceana County has declared a local state of emergency, and was granted a Governor's disaster declaration to activate state assistance for the county.

GRATIOT COUNTY Damage and Injury Assessment Report (EMD-2) indicates \$610,000 in public damage costs, 2,675 homes damaged, 10 homes destroyed, and 100 businesses destroyed. The County reports significant public health and safety risks due to the widespread loss of power and telephone service. Actions: Gratiot County has declared a local state of emergency, and was granted a Governor's disaster declaration to activate state assistance for the county. The County has requested assistance with debris removal.

CLARE COUNTY Flash Report indicates trees and power lines down, and one (1) home damaged.